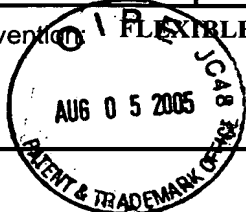

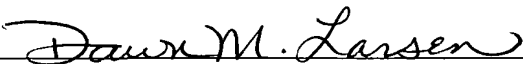


dfw

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)					Docket No. 26978 USA	
Applicant(s): Dole						
Application No. 10/734,040	Filing Date Dec. 10, 2003	Examiner A. Dunwoody	Customer No. 23307	Group Art Unit 3679	Confirmation No. 9198	
Invention: FLEXIBLE PIPE COUPLING						
 COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:						
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.						
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.						
CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	14 -	20 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment.						
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____						
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.						
<input type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account						
<input type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.						
<input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.						
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.						
WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.						
 _____ <i>Signature</i>			Dated: August 3, 2005			
John A. Chionchio, Reg. No. 40,954 Synnestvedt & Lechner LLP 1101 Market Street, Suite 2600 Philadelphia, PA 19107-2950			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on</p><p style="text-align:center"><u>August 3, 2005</u> (Date)</p><p style="text-align:center"> <i>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</i></p><p style="text-align:center">Dawn M. Larsen <i>Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</i></p></div>			
Telephone: 215-923-4466						
Facsimile: 215-923-2189						
cc:						



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August 3, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re\ Application of: Douglas R. Dole

Appln. No.: 10/734,040

Examiner: A. Dunwoody

Filed: December 10, 2003


Group Art Unit: 3679

For: FLEXIBLE PIPE COUPLING

(Atty. Docket No. 26978 USA)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Amendment, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 3, 2005.


Dawn M. Larsen

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION
DATED MAY 16, 2005
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Amendment
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 16, 2005,
please amend the application as follows.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
DATED MAY 16, 2005

Appln. No. 10/734,040

- 2 -

August 3, 2005

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.